

Elizabeth Drinker was a close friend of the Pemberton family. She kept a diary. Oronoco Dexter is mentioned in it. She often refers to him by a nickname, Noke.

(Transcription of a selection of diary entries)

July 13, 1789

“Noke came for me, took a short ride with HP (Hannah Pemberton)...

November 6, 1793 (*during Yellow Fever Epidemic*)

Pemberton’s Noke came this morning from the City, he says that the day before yesterday, there was no burial in Friends ground, Yesterday three, one of them was the wife of Samuel Garrigas, and that, this day there was no grave open’d there.

March 1, 1796

Oronoko came this morning to know if I would ride with his Mistress, I agreed—he came for me about 11 o’clock, we rode about the city till one, when he drove me home to dinner.

August 10, 1799

John Drinker called here—Oronoko is dead, our Jacob went to his funeral, many a pleasant ride have I taken with his Mistress under his care and protection, poor Noke.”